

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and computer system according to the disclosed invention allows the pre-installation of a software application without a license key. The computer system installs a software application and provides a prompt for a license key. The
5 license key is stored in a registry. If the license key is not entered, the computer system installs the software application and installs disabling code. At startup, the disabling code is executed if installed, providing a prompt for a license key. If the proper license key is entered, the computer system stores the key in a registry and uninstalls the disabling code, allowing installation of the software application. If an
10 improper key is entered, the computer system allows the key to be reentered